

REMARKS

By this amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 8, 14, 18, and 23 to more clearly define the features of those claims and cancel claim 7 to incorporate that subject matter into the amended claims.

Claims 1-6, and 8-23 are currently pending.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 02/091785 of Phan-Anh, et al. ("Bajko") et al." in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,764,730 of Rabe, et al. ("Rabe"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites a combination including, among other things, "responsive to the registration termination request, issuing a re-registration notification to the user equipment including the at least one of the plurality of identities which has a registered status and which was not assigned to the second serving controller as a result of the requested registration, and disassociating all identities of the said user from the first serving controller, wherein at least two user equipments have a shared identity and a non-shared identity and checking, when the non-shared identity has been newly assigned to the second serving controller, whether the user equipment has the shared identity and, if so, issuing a re-registration notification to other user equipments sharing the shared identity."

The Examiner alleges that Bajko at page 12, lines 1-31 teaches the following aspect of the above noted feature: "wherein at least two user equipments have a shared identity and a non-shared identity and the method further comprises checking,

when the non-shared identity has been newly assigned to the second serving controller, whether the user equipment has the shared identity and, if so, issuing a re-registration notification to other user equipments sharing the shared identity." A careful scrutiny of the cited passage reveals that it does not teach what the Examiner alleges. Instead, the cited portion of Bajko merely describes registration.

Moreover, Bajko teaches away from the above noted feature as Bajko is directed to a single user element re-registration mechanism. Specifically, Bajko states

[I]n applications where different public IDs of a subscriber may be registered to different S-CSCFs group IDs can be moved between S-CSCFs in a similar manner as described above. The public IDs may be grouped into certain groups.

Bajko, page 13, lines 22-26. Emphasis added.

In view of the foregoing, Bajko fails to disclose or suggest the above noted feature of claim 1. Moreover, although Rabe discloses subscriber IDs, Rabe fails to cure the above noted deficiencies of Bajko. Nor does Rabe at col. 10, lines 44-62. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable over Bajko and Rabe, whether taken alone or in combination, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of claim 1, as well as claims 2-6 at least by reason of their dependency, should be withdrawn.

Regarding the motivation to combine, Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to make the Bajko-Rabe combination proposed by the Examiner. Applicants submit Bajko teaches away from claim 1, as noted above.<sup>1</sup> As such, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to make the Bajko-Rabe

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<sup>1</sup> MPEP §2141.02 further notes that "a prior art reference must be considered in its entirety, i.e., as a whole, including portions that would lead away from the claimed invention. *W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, Inc.*, 721 F.2d 1540, 220 USPQ 303 (Fed. Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 469 U.S. 851 (1984).

combination improperly proposed by the Examiner. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Bajko and Rabe should be withdrawn for this additional reason.

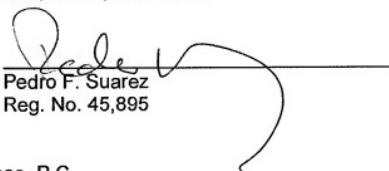
Independent claims 8, 14, 18, and 23, although of different scope, include features similar to some of those noted above with respect to claim 1. For at least the reasons given above, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of claims 8, 14, 18, and 23, as well as claims 9-13, 15-17, and 19-22, at least by reason of their dependency, should be withdrawn.

**CONCLUSION**

On the basis of the foregoing amendments, the pending claims are in condition for allowance. It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper.

Applicant is concurrently filing herewith a Request for Continued Examination with the requisite fee, authorization for a credit card payment of the filing fee is submitted herewith. No additional fees are believed to be due, however the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, reference No. 39700-616001US. If there are any questions regarding this reply, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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